Mr. T. F. Bourdillon, F. L. S., Conservator of Forests; Mr. A. J. Vieyra, B. A., Chief Secretary to Government; Mr. M. K. Ramachandra Row, B. A. & B. L., Puisne Judge, High Court ; Mr. P. V. Krishnaswamy Chetty, B. A., Financial Secretary to Government; Mr. J. S. Sealy, Superintendent, Central Prison; Mr. H. A. Minchin, A. M. I. C. E., Executive Engineer; Lieut. J. C. Loch, Commandant, First Battalion; Dr. H. C. Perkins, M. R. C. S., L. R. C. P., Medical Officer, Nayar Brigade; Dr. E. Poonen, M. D., M. CH., Surgeon, General Hospital; Mr. T. Ponnambalam Pillay, M. R. A. S., Excise Commissioner; Dr. A. W. Bishop, Ph. D., Professor of Chemistry; Mr. G. N. Krishna Row, Survey Superintendent; Mr. A. M. Muthunayagom Pillai, B. A., B. L., Head Sirkar Vakil; Mr. S. Krishnamurti Iyer, M. B. & C. M., Sanitary Commissioner; Mr. K. Aiyappan Pillay, B. A., Palace Sarvadhikariakar; Mr. T. Sankaran Tampi, Palace Manager; Mr. N. Sri Narayanan Tampi; Mr. Kerala Varma Koil Tampuran; Mr. R. Mahadeva Iyer, B. A., Under-Secretary to Government; Mr. S. Shungara Pillai, B. A., Under-Secretary to Government; Mr. T. R. Krishnaswamy Iyengar, B. A., Private Secretary to the Dewan; Mr. C. Krishna Pillai, B. A., Inspector of Schools, Southern Range; Mr. N. Raman Pillai, B. A., Director of Registration; Mr. V. K. Narayana Unnithan, A. C. E., Assistant Engineer; Mr. A. P. Smith, Deputy Conservator of Forests; Mr. P. C. Vallinayagom Pillai, Registrar, High Court; Mr. C. V. Raman Pillai, B. A., Superintendent, Government Press; Mr. S. Ramaswamy Iyer, B. A., B. L., Additional Munsiff, Trivandrum; Mr. R. Venkatarama Dikshitar, B. A., B. L., B. E., M. E., Assistant to the Survey Superintendent; Mr. C. Govinda Pillai, B. A., B. L., Assistant Settlement Peishkar; Mr. E. J. John, B. A., B. L. ; Mr. K. Kochukrishna Marar, B. A., B. L.; Mr. E. Rama Iyer; Mr. S. G. Veeraraghavachariar, B. A., B. L. ; Mr. J. S. Valentine; Mr. Charles Brander; Rev. W. Osborne; Rev. Fr. Paschasius; Mr. Senathi Rajah, Bar-at-Law; Mr. Sreenivasa Iyer, B. A., Assistant Accountant-General, Bombay; and several others.

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The Dewan, the distinguished visitors, Heads of Departments and other Officers were seated on the *dais*. The members occupied seats in the hall. The representatives of the press, English and Vernacular, were accommodated immediately below the *dais* on the left side, the right side being occupied by the clerks of the Secretariat. Visitors from the town and the mofussil were given seats in the gallery and the balcony.

The Dewan opened the proceedings with the following

ADDRESS:—

GENTLEMEN,

1. I have much pleasure in welcoming you to this the third ses-

sion of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly at which I have the honor to preside.

2. As you are aware I was not in charge of the administration during any portion of the past year. I cannot therefore speak from personal knowledge of the events of the year. I shall proceed to place before you at once a resumé of the working of the administration as gathered from the reports of Heads of Departments, and other facts and figures laid before me.

3. **Land Revenue.**—The season was generally unfavourable for agriculture in the Padmanabhapuram, Trivandrum and Kottayam Divisions and there was a rise in the prices of food-grains. There was no marked variation in the wages of labour.

The net demand for the year was Rs. 25,26,959 and the amount collected Rs. 23,96,212. The percentage of collection stood at 94·83 against 95·54 during the previous year. Under the head of old arrears the total amount was Rs. 2,54,137 of which Rs. 24,931 was written off as irrecoverable. Of the net demand a sum of Rs. 47,033 was recovered. Of 27,878 puduval cases, 6,252 or 22·42 per cent. were disposed of, while the disposals under escheat and other revenue cases numbered 41 and 265 respectively. There were 1,468 and 802 cases under the Land Conservancy and Land Acquisition Regulations, of which 1,380 and 587 were disposed of.

As in the previous year, sanction was accorded for the recovery of the paddy tax at the rate of 10 chs. per parah in some taluks in which the crops failed.

The scheme for converting grain-tax into money to which reference was made in the address last year was sanctioned by His Highness the Maha Rajah during the year under review. As you are aware, option was given to the ryots to have the tax in kind commuted into money at 11 chuckrams per parah or to continue payment in kind. The enquiries made by the Tahsildars in the several taluks showed that the ryots welcomed the change and orders were accordingly issued to give effect to the scheme from the beginning of the current year.

In connection with this scheme, opportunity was also taken to reduce the kist instalments from 10 to 6, 3 for each crop. In conse-

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